

Message Text

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45

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 DPW-01 IO-12 AID-20

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /150 W

----- 025045

R 101212 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4050

INFO WHITE HOUSE

CIA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JKARATA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CINCPAC

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI

CDR USSG NKP

CDR 13 AF ADVON UDORN

USDEL JEC PARIS

SECDEF

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 3578

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PGOV, PINS, PINT, PFOR, MARR, MASS,

MCAP, LA, US, VN, XC

SUBJECT: ELEVENTH WEEK OF LAO CEASEFIRE

REF: VIENTIANE 3390

BEGIN SUMMARY: MILITARY ACTION IN LAOS DURING WEEK 3-9

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MAY REACHED NEW LOW, WITH ONLY 17 INCIDENTS (ALL MINOR)
REPORTED. ON POLITICAL FRONT, LAO INTERNAL TALKS REMAINED DEADLOCKED. END SUMMARY

1. MILITARY: THERE WERE ONLY 17 MINOR INCIDENTS SCATTERED THROUGHOUT LAOS DURING THE PERIOD 3-9 MAY, MAKING IT THE MOST PEACEFUL WEEK SINCE THE CEASEFIRE WENT INTO EFFECT 22 FEBRUARY. MOST INCIDENTS WERE MINOR SHELLINGS OR CLASHES. CASUALTIES FOR WEEK TOTALLED 2 KIA, 14 WIA AND 2 MIA. ONLY REAL HOT SPOTS WERE THE AREAS 30-35 KM SOUTH-EAST OF THAKHEK AND 20 KM SOUTH OF PAKSE, WHERE 7 AND 3, RESPECTIVELY, OF THE TOTAL INCIDENTS AND MOST OF THE CASUALTIES OCCURRED. RLAF FLEW 14 T-28 SORTIES (7 IN SUPPORT OF UNSUCCESSFUL SAR EFFORT TO LOCATE U. S. CONTRACT AIRCRAFT LOST 7 MAY), AND 3 AC-47 SORTIES - SETTING A RECORD WEEKLY LOW OF 10 RLAF AIR SORTIES.

2. POLITICAL: THE RLG CONTINUES TO INSIST THAT POLITICAL AND MILITARY PROBLEMS BE SEPARATED, WITH FIRST PRIORITY ON FORMING THE NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT. FOR ITS PART, LPF REMAINS STEADFAST IN ITS POSITION THAT ALL POLITICAL AND MILITARY QUESTIONS MUST BE SETTLED SIMULTANEOUSLY. DESPITE PUBLICLY- EXPRESSED HOPES OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND OF SPECIAL ADVISOR PHOUMI, THERE APPEAR TO BE NO IMMEDIATE PROSPECTS FOR BRIDGING THIS MAJOR DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. MEANWHILE, RLG NEGOTIATOR PHENG PHONGSAVAN CONTINUES TO MEET AND NEGOTIATE WITH PHOUMI ON THE LPF DEMAND FOR THE POSITION OF VICE PRIME MINISTER. THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WILL RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION ON 11 MAY.
DEAN

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NMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: MARR, MASS, MCAP, MOPS, PGOV, PINS, LA, US, XC, PINT
To: BANGKOK
CIA
EA
JKARATA
LONDON
MOSCOW
NEW DELHI

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SECSTATE WASHDC

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